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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/089,122	03/22/2002	Sunao Takatori	3552/OK414	9087
7278	7590	03/12/2007	EXAMINER	
DARBY & DARBY P.C. P. O. BOX 5257 NEW YORK, NY 10150-5257			TINKLER, MURIEL S	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3691		
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	03/12/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/089,122	TAKATORI ET AL.	
	Examiner Muriel Tinkler	Art Unit 3691	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/22/2002</u> | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This application has been reviewed. The original claims 1-6, amended claims 6-10, and new claims 11-23 are pending. The rejections are as follows.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

- (1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2) if an article, its method of making;
- (3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The

abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4-6 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Chasko (US 6,738,749 B1).
3. Claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 11 discuss an authentication management apparatus, comprising: storage means for storing a plurality of pieces of customer ID information and a plurality of pieces of store ID information; reception means for receiving a piece of customer ID information, a piece of store ID information, and amount information indicating a monetary amount from a store communication terminal; authentication means for authenticating the piece of customer ID information and the piece of store ID information that have been received by the reception means; and transfer means for transferring the monetary amount indicated by the amount information from an account of a store with the authenticated piece of store ID information to an account of a customer with the authenticated piece of customer ID information. Chasko discloses:

- a storage means for storing a plurality of pieces of customer ID information and a plurality of pieces of store ID information in the Abstract, Background of the Invention, Summary of the Invention, figure 1 (element 112), figure (elements 221 and 232), column 4 (lines 27-48), column 5 (lines 1-48), column 7 (lines 49-67) and column 8 (lines 1-17 and 38-42);
- a reception means for receiving a piece of customer ID information, a piece of store ID information, and amount information indicating a monetary amount from a store communication terminal in figure 1 (elements 121, 124, 125 and 130), column 3 (lines 58-67) and column 4 (lines 1-10);
- an authentication means for authenticating the piece of customer ID information and the piece of store ID information that have been received by the reception means in the Field of the Invention, Background of the Invention, Summary of the Invention, figure 3 (element 308), figure 4 (element 358), figure 5 (element 504), column 3 (lines 50-57), column 4 (lines 27-63), column 5 (lines 20-40) and column 7 (lines 19-28).
- and a transfer means for transferring the monetary amount indicated by the amount information from an account of a store with the authenticated piece of store ID information to an account of a customer with the authenticated piece of customer ID information as the processing of transactions in the Field of the Invention, Background of the Invention, figure 1 (element 113), figure 7a (element 706), figure 8 (element 806), figure 8a (element 858), figure 9 (element 906), figure 10 (element

1008), figure 11 (element 1104), column 7 (lines 49-67) and column 8 (line 1) through column 11 (line 50).

3. Claim 2 discusses an authentication management apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the reception means receives transfer source store account information and the transfer means transfers the monetary amount from an account indicated by the transfer source store account information received by the reception means. Claim 1 was rejected based on the discussion(s) above. Chasko discloses this in the Background of the Invention and column 10 (lines 61) through column 11 (line 23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3, 7, 12, 16 and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chasko in view of Benton et al. (US 4,625,276 A).

6. Claim 3 discusses an authentication management apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the reception means receives cancel information from the store

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communication terminal and stops the transfer means from transferring the monetary amount. Claim 1 has been rejected based on the discussion(s) above. Chasko discloses the information in claim 1. Chasko does not specifically disclose the use of a cancel feature. Benton et al. teaches the use of a cancel feature in column 6 (lines 44-55), column 13 (lines 28-43 and 51-67), column 14 (lines 1-24 and 35-47) and column 15 (lines 9-47). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a cancel feature to allow one of the parties to stop the transaction if desired.

7. Claims 7, 12, 16 and 20 discuss a store communication terminal in accordance with any of claims 4-6 and 11, wherein the store communication terminal is a mobile communication terminal. Claims 4-6 and 11 were rejected based on the discussion(s) above. Claims 4-6 and 11 have been rejected based on the discussion(s) above. Chasko discloses the information in claim 1. Chasko does not specifically disclose the use of a mobile terminal. Benton et al. teaches the use of a mobile terminal in the Abstract, Technical Field, Background of the Art, Disclosure of the Invention, figure 1a, figure 1b, figure 2 and figure 4. Therefore it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a mobile communications terminal to speed up account accessibility.

8. Claims 8, 13, 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chasko in view of Woolston (US 6,085,176 A).

9. Claims 8, 13, 17 and 21 discuss a store communication terminal in accordance with any of claims 4-6 and 11, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a pawnshop. Claims 4-6 and 11 were rejected based on the discussion(s) above. Chasko discloses the information in claim 1. Chasko does not specifically disclose the use of a terminal at a pawnshop. Woolston teaches the use of a terminal at a pawnshop in column 5 (lines 53-67) and column 6 (lines 1-14). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a pawnshop because it is easily accessible to the public.

10. Claims 9, 14, 18 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chasko in view of Gustin et al. (US 6,012,048 A).

11. Claims 9, 14, 18 and 22 discuss a store communication terminal in accordance with any of claims 4-6 and 11, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a lottery money-exchanging booth. Claims 4-6 and 11 were rejected based on the discussion(s) above. Chasko discloses the information in claim 1. Chasko does not specifically disclose the use of a lottery money-exchanging booth. Gustin et al. teaches the use of a lottery money-exchanging booth in the Background of the Invention, Summary of the Invention, column 9 (lines 46-59), column 21 (lines 4-34), column 22 (lines 4-26 and 32-44). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a lottery machine

because lottery machines have a large volume of usage and because the purchase of end-user items is less susceptible to fraud, they do not require the additional security for transactions as cashing checks or money orders as discussed in Gusin, Background of the Invention.

12. Claims 10, 15, 19 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chasko in view of Fernandez (US 6,266,647 B1).

13. Claims 10, 15, 19 and 23 discuss a store communication terminal in accordance with any of claims 4-6 and 11, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a prize-exchanging booth of a pachinko parlor. Claims 4-6 and 11 were rejected based on the discussion(s) above. Chasko discloses the information in claim 1. Chasko does not specifically disclose the use of a pachinko parlor. Fernandez teaches the use of a Pachinko parlor in the Summary of the Invention, column 4 (lines 24-34 and 60-65), column 8 (lines 57-67), column 9 (lines 1-5) and claim 17. Therefore it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a location that has pachinko games because it is easily accessible to the public.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Muriel Tinkler whose telephone number is (571)272-

7976. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM until 4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571)272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MT
March 1, 2007



HANI M. KAZIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER